

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-12, and 14-25 are pending. Claims 1, 3, 9, and 16-21 have been amended. Claims 2, 5, and 13 have been canceled. Also, the specification has been revised to correct typographical errors.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

In the Office Action, claims 5 and 13 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten into independent form to recite the features of their base and intervening claims. Equivalently, claim 1 has been amended to recite subject matter of claims 2 and 5, and claim 9 has been amended to recite the subject matter of claim 13. It is respectfully submitted that these amendments are sufficient to place claims 1, 9, and their dependent claims into condition for allowance.

Claim 16 has been amended to recite that the call assignment circuit assigns a resource by “receiving resource utilization information from each of the packet processing circuits, and comparing the resource utilization information, wherein each of the plurality of packet processing circuits reports resource utilization information periodically based on a period set by a user.” These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination. It is therefore submitted that claim 16 and its dependent claims are allowable.

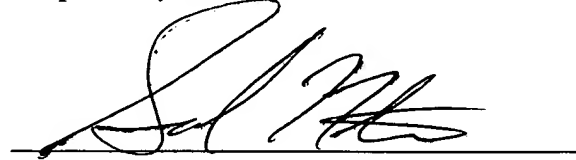
Claim 20 has been amended to recite that “each of the plurality of packet processing circuits reports resource utilization information to the call assignment circuit periodically based on a period set by a user.” This claim further recites that the call assignment circuit assigns the resource based on the reported resource utilization information. These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination. It is therefore submitted that claim 20 is in allowable condition.

Claim 21 has been amended to recite “receiving resource utilization information from each of the packet processing functions, and comparing the resource utilization information, wherein each of the plurality of packet processing functions reports resource utilization information periodically based on a period set by a user.” These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination. It is therefore respectfully submitted that claim 21 and its dependent claims are allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with this application to Deposit Account No. 16-0607 and credit any excess fees to the same Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Y. J. Kim', is written over a horizontal line.

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